

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/881,249

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Hosuk Song

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 3/8/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-44.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/810,623.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

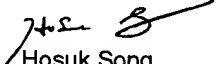
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Hosuk Song
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2135

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-44 are allowed.

Claims 1,13-14,40-42 are allowed. Prior art of record does not teach infringement situation decision for deciding that a security of the service use is infringed in case at least one person other than the authorized user is recognized in the input image and service control means for supplying the service to the authorized user and for controlling a supply of the service if use situation decision means decides that the user is not under the situation to use the service or if infringement situation decision means that the security of the service use area is infringed.

Claims 15-16,43-44 are allowed. Prior art of record does not teach continuously inputting images of the service area, continuously recognizing a person in the input image or recognizing user as an authorized user from input images and to recognize at least one person other than the authorized user from the input images and supplying the service to the authorized user when the user is recognized in the input images and controlling the supply of the service to the authorized user when the person other than the authorized user is recognized in the input images.

Claim 29 is allowed. Prior art of record does not teach an intrusion situation decision unit configured to decide whether a non-user intrudes into the service area in accordance with recognition result of person recognition unit; and a service control unit configured to supply the service to the user when person recognition unit recognizes the user, and to control a supply of the service when use situation decision unit decides the user is not under the situation to use the service or when intrusion situation decision unit decides the non-user intrudes into the service area.

Claims 17,38-39 are allowed. Prior art of record does not teach a monitor unit configured to continuously input images of the service area; a recognition unit configured to recognize the user as an authorized user from the input images, and to recognize at least one person other than the authorized user from the input images and a service control unit configured to supply the service to the authorized user

when the user is recognized in the input images, and to control the supply of the service to the authorized user when the person other than the authorized user is recognized in the input images.

Claims 2-12,18-28,30-37 are allowed because of dependency.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

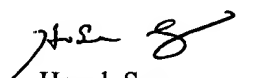
USPTO Contact Information

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hosuk Song whose telephone number is 571-272-3857. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HS


Hosuk Song
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2135